

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 and 16-23 remain pending, claims 15 and 24 being canceled herein.

Claims 1-24 over Croft

In the Office Action, claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7-12, 14-21, 23 and 24 were rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,490,439 to Croft et al. ("Croft"); and claims 3, 6, 13 and 22 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Croft. Claims 15 and 24 are canceled herein, thereby mooted the rejection in that regard. Otherwise, the Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claims 1-6 recite a piconet connection **acceptable quality** determiner that determines a condition of an **acceptable** level at least one aspect relating to a quality of connection achieved through the piconet front end, and activates a user link **acceptable quality** indicator based on a presence of the condition of the **acceptable** level. Claims 7-14 and 16-23 recite firstly determining an **acceptable** level of at least one aspect of a link **quality** of a wireless connection to a short range network, and providing a first indication of compliance to the **acceptable** level of the at least one aspect of the link **quality**, to a user.

Croft discloses a lighted antenna that can be used to show that the transceiver is transmitting or receiving signals, that a data connection has been made, or that a Bluetooth piconet has been detected. (See Croft, Abstract) The Examiner specifically cites col. 8, line 57 to col. 9, line 2; and col. 9, line 61 to col. 10, line 3. In these teachings, Croft discloses that the "antenna can be used to provide a visual indication that conveys information to a user about . . . the strength of the incoming signals, or whether receiver 908 is transmitting or receiving."

The present inventors have appreciated that not all users will be technically oriented, and fully understand the significance of a strength of an incoming signal, or more importantly what strength level will be satisfactory and what strength level will work but in an undesirable mode (e.g., with excessive

repeated transmissions necessary). To this end, the inventors have provided a user link quality indicator that, e.g., may light an LED, or sound an audible sound such as a BEEP, when the wireless piconet device "is above (or below) an acceptable connection quality threshold." (Specification, page 6, lines 25-28).

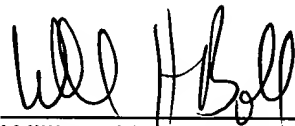
Croft fails to provide such guidance to the untrained user. Rather, Croft merely provides a lighted antenna that can be used to show that a connection has been made. (Croft, Abstract). However, Croft fails to provide an indication about exceeding a given connection quality level, as variously claimed by claims 1-14 and 16-23.

For at least all the above reasons, claims 1-14 and 16-23 are patentable over the prior art of record. It is therefore respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Conclusion

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the subject application is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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